

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT Soviet Army Activities in the
Zossen/Wuensdorf Area

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE

report concerning Soviet Army activities in the Zossen/Wuensdorf area in January 1957. The report gives the following information:

1. Troops and equipment in the Cambrai Kaserne, Wuensdorf.
2. Return to the barracks of the troops who left the Hindenburg Kaserne, Wuensdorf, between 28 and 30 November 1956.
3. Rumored dismissal of 100 German civilian employees of the AFV repair shop at Wuensdorf.
4. Preparations for construction work at the Zossen Stammlager.
5. Plans to commence the construction of a large barracks complex at an undetermined location between the Hindenburg Kaserne and the Zossen Stammlager. Work was to begin on 1 March 1957.
6. Repairing and rebuilding of the former German Langemarkblock.

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Miscellaneous information on the ZOSSEN WUENSDORF Area (Jan 1957)CAMBRAI KASERNE

1. (a) During the night of 18/19 Jan 57, these barracks again became fully occupied. The tps returned from the direction of TOEPCHIN by road. They had done a night march lasting 1½ hrs from their detraining point.
- (b) The troops are still commanded by (Lt/Col) ^{*}BERTRUG.
- (c) On 19 Jan 57, the following equipment was seen inside the bks:

80 x T34/85;
 10 x BA 64;
 36 x APC 6 x 6.

comment: No 152 mm hows or 85 mm A/tk guns could be seen within the area as was normally the case prior to Nov 56.

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- (d) 12 tanker [] were also seen arriving in the barracks. These tanker [] were of the 5-ton [] type, 6-7 m in length, double-wheeled and with an estimated tank capacity of 4000 litres. The driving cab and bonnet were of the same shape as a ZIS 151. Between the driving cab and the tank there is a rotatable MG turret with one sighting slit above the MG. The turret protrudes 1 m above the driving cab and has a diameter of approx 1-4 m. The turret is tortoise-shaped at the top.

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HINDENBURG KASERNE

2. The tps who left the HINDENBURG KASERNE under the command of (Major) ~~DEMIDOV~~ during the period 28-30 Nov 56, returned to the bks on 23 Jan 57.

AFV REPAIR WORKSHOP WUENSDORF

3. It is rumoured that in the very near future, 100 German civilian workers will be dismissed from their employment at this workshop.

ZOSSEN STAMMLAGER

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4. During Jan 57, SAF tps have been observed unloading building materials at a point []. The material unloaded appears to be for the construction of barrack huts. Numerous wooden masts approx 20 m in length have also been transported to this point. It would appear that the constructional work is to take place at either or both points []. Both these points are small rises in the ground (approx 30 m) and at the end of Jan 57 SAF personnel were seen digging foundations at both locations.

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BUILDING PROJECTS

5. Plans have already been agreed for the commencement of a large building project on 1 Mar 57. Exact location of the project is not yet known but it is to comprise a large barrack complex. At present all types of building materials are being transported to, and stored at, various points along a line stretching 2 km from the HINDENBURG Kaserne to the ZOSSEN STAMMLAGER and parallel to the Reichsstrasse 96. An enormous

-2-

quantity of light gauge field railway tracks have also been delivered.

6. The former German LANGMARKBLOK is at present being repaired and rebuilt. The ruins of this complex are located between the HINGSBURG and LUTZ Kasernen.

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